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# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT

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report concerning the coal mining industry and uranium mining in Hungary. The report lists the coal mines in Hungary and gives the daily production and number of workers of each as of 1956. The report also states that the two uranium mines in Hungary, Balatonfüred and Kővágosbéltek, were not actually being exploited as of October 1956. Activities were still only of a preparatory nature, and only a small amount - two metric tons - of rock had been sent to the USSR for examination. Most of the important work was being done by Soviet personnel and the management was in the hands of the Soviets.

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[redacted] the coal mines of  
Tatabánya. This industry had not yet been nationalized at the time and the  
director then was named Dr. Rezső MONI. This company also had mines at  
Oroszlány. The nationalization of all stone coal mines in Hungary took place  
in 1946. [redacted]

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[redacted] Ministry for Heavy Industry  
in Budapest.

This was a section with 40 people working in it, including 12 engineers.  
In 1950, chief of this section was Ferenc Mayer who is now working in <sup>the</sup> research  
institute for mining in Budapest. Mayer was a member of the CP [redacted]

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[redacted] In 1951 Simon KÁLMAN became head of the  
bureau for the technical development of mining. Kálmán at that time was a strong  
communist and a political "climber". About 1955, Kálmán's political attitude  
changed and it is known that during the revolution he conducted himself very  
gallantly. (bravely).

In 1951 the ministry for heavy industry was split into a Ministry for  
Mining and a Ministry for Energy. Later, various reorganizations were made.  
If production was not up to expectations, there a reorganization was the immediate  
result. These reorganizations usually did more harm than good to production.  
In 1952 a lawsuit was set up against a number of engineers who were working for  
the bureau of technical development. The engineers who were the victims of this  
were:

Imre HANSAGI, [redacted]  
Dr. Rezső MONI  
László DZSIDE  
Rézse KRUPÁR  
Dr. Sandor VITÁLIS  
Dr. Sandor SCHMIDT  
Bela VARGA

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Most of these engineers were concerned with planning activities. Moreover,  
they determined how the money available to the mines was to be invested. The  
accusations made against these engineers were the following: sabotage, insuf-  
ficient production and improper investment of government funds. It was the aim  
of the AVH to make this a test case but the fact that during the preparation,  
Imre NAGY came to power, prevented this. The engineers named had been arrested  
in 1952 during the preparations, but were set free again in 1954. The man who  
at the ministry was preparing this lawsuit with the AVH was Zoltan AJTAG,  
a strong communist who had close connections with the AVH. This Ajtag is now  
working for the Research Institute for Mines in Budapest.

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[redacted] the director general was then Janos Ban. He 50X1-HUM  
 was a party member but not a strong communist and in 1953 he was replaced  
 because he got into difficulties with the party and they didn't think he was  
 strong enough politically. The next director general was Zoltan VAS who was  
 a communist of the old stamp and who had been in prison during the time of the  
 Horthy government. Before he was named to Komlo he was chief of the planning  
 bureau of the ministry. That he was sent back to the mines was caused by the  
 fact that he was on a poor footing with Gerö. [redacted] Zoltan VAS is 50X1-HUM  
 now in prison with Imre NAGY.

In June 1954 Vas was transferred to the ministry for foreign trade in Buda-50X1-HUM  
 pest [redacted]

[redacted] the coal mines at Komlo were very important in the eyes of the govern-  
 ment because these were mines which produced coal suitable for coke production.  
 In 1953 a lot of money was invested in these mines and they were completely  
 modernized. An illustrated paper was put out about the Komlo coal mines with 50X1-HUM  
 an extensive article about their development [redacted]

### Forced labor in the mines

Even in the Komlo mines [redacted] there were  
 prisoners working. 20% of these were made up of 'light' political prisoners,  
 and many of these, [redacted] were farmers who had not lived up to  
 their required production or who had not paid their taxes. [redacted] the 50X1-HUM  
 prisoners at Komlo were housed in a building near the mines. In 1953 the number  
 of prisoners came to about 1200 at Komlo. In 1956 this number had fallen to about  
 800. [redacted] the mine directors made no distinction between the free workers 50X1-HUM  
 and the prisoners. Wages for the prisoners were the same as for the free workers,  
 but with the difference that the wages of the prisoners were paid to the prison  
 directors. About 60% of the wages were held back for food, etc. The rest became  
 their property but was not paid out. The prisoners got only a small part in  
 their own hands for cantine expenses, toilet articles, etc. while the rest was  
 paid to them when they were set free.

Guarding of these prisoners was in the hands of a special guard corps that  
 was also under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This corps was not a part of  
 the AVH [redacted] The uniforms they wore had light blue rings of 50X1-HUM  
 trimming on them. Costs of this guard had to be paid by the mine directors and  
 they also had to contribute to the feeding of the prisoners. In this way, these 50X1-HUM  
 work forces were more expensive for the mine directors than were the normal  
 working forces. [redacted]

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In 1954 and 1955 the commandant of this guard corp in Komlo was a former AVH officer named Istven FETTER, and the local police and fire department were also placed under his command. [ ] in every mine there were several people who maintained contact with the AVH. As a rule, these were not directors, [ ] never had anything to do with the AVH. [ ] the leaders in the mine were in Komlo who did have contact with the AVH. These were Árpád LÁDA, geologist and also personnel chief, and Gyula KLAUSZ, a construction official. Klausz was a person who was being blackmailed by the AVH. He was involved in various purchases and had committed minor embezzlement. He was arrested for this and after two days set free. [ ] Klausz later did espionage for the AVH and he feels that Klausz was set free on this condition. The party secretary at Komlo was named Karoly TATAI.

[ ] there were the following sections in the Ministry of Mines: Production, Technical section, Personnel Affairs (the most important political section where, among other things, the cadre were judged for their political reliability), Labor forces, Bookkeeping, Plans and Statistics, Secretariat, Investment section, Quartermaster and a section for accidents.

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the coal mines in Hungary had been united into state trusts by groups. There was a total of 9 trusts the following summary: 50X1-HUM

I. The trust of BORSOD. The following coal mines belong to this:

- 1.0. Diósgyőr
- 1.1. Sajószentpéter
- 1.2. Alacska-Herbolya
- 1.3. Bánfalva
- 1.4. Sajókaza
- 1.5. Szuhakálló
- 1.6. Kurityán
- 1.7. Ormosbánya
- 1.8. Alberttelep
- 1.9. Mucsony-Edelény

Total daily production of these mines amounts to 11,000 tons. Working force is 13,000 people. The margin (latitude, scope, tolerance), also in the following statements, amounts to 5% for the daily production and to 10% for the working forces. The numbers 1.0, 1.1, 1.2. etc. correspond to the numbers on the map of Hungary which is attached to this report.

II. The trust of ÓZD includes the following coal mines:

- 2.1. Putnok
- 2.2. Királd
- 2.3. Farkaslyuk
- 2.4. Somsály
- 2.5. Borsodnádassd
- 2.6. Egercsehi

Total daily production of these mines comes to 4,000 tons. Working force is 5,000.

III. The trust of NÓGRÁD. Includes the following mines:

- 3.1. Salgóbánya
- 3.2. Forgácslejtősekna
- 3.3. Kisterenye
- 3.4. Mizersfa
- 3.5. Mátranovák
- 3.6. Nagybatony
- 3.7. Kányás

Total daily production was 10,500 tons. Working force was 15,000.

IV. The trust of PETŐFIBÁNYA. Includes the following mines:

- 4.1. Altáró
- 4.2. Rózsaszentmárton

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- 4.3 XII Akna (Akna means shaft)
- 4.4 Gyöngyös

Total daily production was 6,000 tons, working force was 5,500.

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V. The trust of DOROG included the following mines:

- 5.1 Pilisszentiván
- 5.2 I Akna (shaft I)
- 5.3 II Akna
- 5.4 VIII Akna
- 5.5 Annadvölgy
- 5.6 IX-XII Akna
- 5.7 Tokod-Altáró
- 5.8 XV-XVI Akna

Total daily production was 7,200 tons. working force was 9,000.

VI. The trust of TATABÁNYA, including the following mines at Tatabánya:

- 6.10 VI Akna
- 6.11 VII Akna
- 6.12 VIII Akna
- 6.13 X Akna
- 6.14 XI Akna
- 6.15 XII Akna
- 6.16 Sikvölgyiakna
- 6.17 XIV Akna
- 6.18 XV Akna
- 6.19 Open pit mining

Also included in this were the mines at Oroszlány:

- 6.20 XVI Akna
- 6.21 XVII Akna
- 6.22 XVIII Akna
- 6.23 XIX Akna
- 6.24 Open pit mining

Total daily production was 14,000, working force was 16,000.

VIII. The trust of VÁRPALOTA, with the following mines: (See p. 8 for VII.)

- 8.1 Ferenc Mező
- 8.2 Ernő Mező
- 8.3 Beszállóakna
- 8.4 II Skip-Akna
- 8.5 Csermező
- 8.6 Herend
- 8.7 Hidas
- 8.8 Open pit mining

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Total daily production (Várpalota) came to 6,200 tons, number of workers was 5,500.

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VII. The trust of middle DUNÁNTUL, with the following mines:

- 7.1 Pusztavám
- 7.2 Balinka
- 7.3 Dudar
- 7.4 Ajka
- 7.41 Ajka-Felsöcsinger
- 7.42 Ajka-Armin Akna
- 7.43 Ajka-Jolán Akna
- 7.44 Padrag

Total daily production was 7500 tons, working force was 8,500.

IX. The trust of PÉCS, with the following mines:

- 9.1 Pécsbánya
- 9.11 Széchenyiakna
- 9.12 András Akna
- 9.2 Szabolcs
- 9.21 István Akna
- 9.22 Béke Akna
- 9.3 Vasas

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Total daily production 4,500 tons, number of workers 7,500.

X. The trust of KOMLO, [ ] In this trust, [ ] also able to give the daily production and number of workers for the individual mines.

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	<u>Daily production</u>	<u>Workers</u>
10.1 Kossuth Akna	1500 tons	2800
10.2 III Akna	650 "	900
10.3 Béta Akna	1100 "	1500
10.4 Anna Akna	450 "	600
10.5 Nagymányok	260 "	600
10.6 Maza	300 "	700
10.7 Szászvár	280 "	700
	<u>4540 tons</u>	<u>7800 workers</u>

The following is a summary of the total Hungarian coal production:

<u>No. of trust</u>	<u>Name of trust</u>	<u>Daily production in tons</u>	<u>Working force</u>
1.	Borsod	11,000	13,000
2.	Ózd	4,000	5,000
3.	Nógrád	10,500	15,000
4.	Petőfibánya	6,000	5,500
5.	Dorog	7,200	9,000

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<u>No. of trust</u>	<u>Name of trust</u>	<u>Daily production in tons</u>	<u>Working forces</u>
6.	Tatabánya	14,000	16,000
7.	Dunántul	7,500	8,500
8.	Várpalota	6,200	5,500
9.	Pécs	4,500	7,500
10.	Komló	4,500	7,800
		<u>75,400 tons</u>	<u>92,800 workers</u>

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[redacted] besides the mines mentioned [redacted] there were a number of smaller mines which belonged to some trusts. The production of these mines is so slight, however, (50-100 tons a day) that in this connection they may be considered worthless. [redacted]

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[redacted] There are 2 uranium mines in Hungary, as follows:

1. BALATONFÜRED
2. KÖVÁGÓSZÖLLŐS

However, these can scarcely be called mines. Until the revolution broke out, activities were still preparatory and investigations were being made. They were busy making shafts at Kövágószöllős. In general, people in the West have a completely incorrect picture of the activities in these two places and have the idea that both mines are already operating, but nothing is further from the truth. The most important work is being done by Russians and the directorship also rests with them. Rocks holding uranium had not yet been sent to Russia with the exception of a small amount of 2 tons. However, this was sent to Russia only for examination. Until the revolution, there was no question of any production in either place. 50X1-HUM

[redacted] it is a definitely established fact that there is quite a lot of uranium in Hungary. Many rocks contain uranium but only in very small amounts. However, there seems to be a certain type of sandstone containing a very high percentage of uranium. The ashes of stone coal (pit coal) also contain uranium and they are busy seeking means to separate this.

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